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NEWS SUMMARY
FEBRUARY 16, 1973
(THURSDAY NETS, WIRES & COLUMNS)

POW'S US AND VNESE, DOMINATED NETS W/FILM ON ALL, FOCUSING ON RISNER AT NEWS CONFERENCE AND MORE POW HOMECOMINGS.

RISNER SAID ON NBC/ABC FILM AS FAR AS HE KNEW "EVERY MAN SUPPORTS AND HAS SUPPORTED RN AND RN'S POLICY." ASKED ABOUT ANTIWAR STATEMENTS HE ALLEGEDLY MADE IN NVN HE SAID ON ABC FILM "CONSIDER THE SOURCE" REFERRING TO POW CAMP. ON CBS, (NOTED BY ABC), RISNER SAID AT NO TIME HAD HE "FAILED TO SUPPORT MY PRES, MY COUNTRY, AND MY PRES.'S POLICY." ABC WAS ONLY NET TO NOTE WH STATEMENT THAT "WH STOOD BEHIND" RISNER AND ON ABC FILM (NOTED BY CBS) DOD'S MG JAMES NOTED GOV'T "HAS NO PLANS TO BRING ANY ACTION" AGAINST ANY POW. (CRONKITE SAID OTHER MILITARY COULD DO SO.)

LENGTHY FILMS ON ALL NETS FOCUSED ON MORE ARRIVALS IN US OF POW'S. NBC'S PERKINS ON FILM NOTED ALL BOARDED PLANES AT CLARK "SALUTING, EXPRESSING DEEP JOY AND GRATITUDE." ON ABC/NBC FILM COL. BYRNE SAID US "REACHED ACROSS TIME AND SPACE TO BRING US HOME. THANK YOU FOR CARING. THANK YOU MR. PRES., FOR UNWAVERING SUPPORT AND LEADERSHIP." CPT STOCKDALE QUOTED HOMER ON ABC: NOTHING IS SO SWEET AS TO RETURN FROM SEA AND HEAR RAINDROPS ON THE ROOFTOPS. ON NBC HE WAS "PROUD OF PATRIOTISM, UNITY, TRUST (OF POW'S) IN EACH OTHER, IN US AND O-IN -C." NBC/CBS NOTED TRAVIS WELCOME WAS SMALLER THAN 1ST, "BUT JUST AS WARM." (NBC)

LIKE YESTERDAY ALL NETS HAD DOWNBEAT FILM OF MORE NVN POW'S BEING RELEASED BY GVN AT QT CITY -- MORE BALKING AT CROSSING RIVER UNDER GVN FLAG, MORE DISPLAYING BANNERS SHOWING "DEFIANCE, HATRED" (ABC). DELANEY SAID SCENARIO IS "BECOMING VC TRADITION" AND SAID BICKERING OVER MODE OF RELEASE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF DISAGREEMENT AND DISCORD OF JMC.

NBC HAD VALERIANI AND BRINKLEY IN LENGTHLY LOOK AT RN'S AND ADMIN'S REACTION TO CRITICS' REACTION TO VN PEACE. VALERIANI NOTED RN "FELT CRITICS HAD NOT GIVEN HIM HIS DUE." AND THO "HE DOESN'T EXPECT ADULATION, HE WANTS CREDIT" FOR BRINGING AN END TO A WAR HE DIDN'T START. BRINKLEY NOTED RN AND ADMIN WERE "PUZZLED AND HURT" BY LACK OF POSITIVE REACTION TO PEACE AND HE MADE

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PREDICTABLE COMPARISONS W/WWII. ALL NETS NOTED EMOTIONAL ROGERS AT NEWS CONFERENCE DISCUSSING POST-WAR RECONCILIATION AND AMNESTY, SAYING US MUST GET ON W/PEACE AND THERE'S NO BETTER START THAN W/POW RETURN. "IF THAT DOESN'T MAKE ONE PROUD, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL," ROGERS SAID ON ALL NETS.

ABC/NBC HAD FILM OF ROGERS "BLUNTLY" (ABC) ADMITTING DIFFICULTY OF GETTING NVN AID PROPOSAL PAST HILL. CHANCELLOR TERMED IT "10F BIG DISPUTES OF YEAR" WHILE ABC'S GILL NOTED IT'LL BE "HASSLE." (CBS NOTED)

ALL NETS NOTED SIGNING OF ANTI-HIJACK AGREEMENT, WHILE CBS/NBC REPORTED THAT ROGERS SAID THE AGREEMENT IS NOT TO BE INTERPRETED AS A STEP TOWARD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. ON FILM, ROGERS SAID THE RIGHT TO ASYLUM CONTINUES TO BE A "VERY SACRED RIGHT" AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO HONOR IT BUT IT (THE AGREEMENT) MEANS THAT YOU CANNOT COMMIT A CRIME ENROUTE TO ASYLUM.

ABC/NBC NOTED HAK ARRIVAL IN PRC AND OFFICIAL US FILM OF VISIT TO NVN, NOTING TWO PRESENCE ON NVN SIDE OF TABLE, "JUST LIKE PARIS" (NBC). ABC NOTED BUSINESS LIKE NATURE OF TALKS, BUT NO WAR DAMAGE ON FILM AND WH "NEVER ADMITTED HAK EVEN SAW BOMB CRATER."

INDOCHINA

AP LEADS: "TOUGH COP TACTICS OF SUNESE GUARDS AT TON SON NHUT AIR BASE ARE JARRING THE DELICATE ~~PEACEKEEPING~~ MACHINERY, "W/POLISH AND HUNGARIAN TROOPS THREATENING TO MOVE OUT OF ICCS COMPOUND TO QUARTERS DOWNTOWN.

UPI LEADS: "3 DIPLOMATIC INCIDENTS INCLUDING ATTACKS ON COMMUNIST TRUCE OFFICERS, A THREAT BY GVN TO HALT THE POW RELEASE AND GVN'S REFUSAL TO SIGN AN ORDER ENDING THE POST-CEASE-FIRE SHOOTING CLOUDED THE UNEASY TRUCE." (ALL NETS NOTED)

GVN NP'S BLOCKED CHIEF INDONESIAN PEACE DELEGATION FROM VC RECEPTION.

US ASKED GVN TO INVESTIGATE COMMUNIST CHARGES TEAR GAS GRENADES WERE FIRED INTO THEIR COMPOUND. ... SINCE ARRIVAL IN SAIGON, COMMUNIST DELEGATES TO JMC HAVE LET IT BE KNOWN THEY WELCOME CONTACT W/WESTERN PRESS. GVN BLANDLY INSISTS IT'S NOT PREVENTING SUCH CONTACT BUT AP NOTES "EVERY TIME A REPORTER APPROACHES GATES, HE IS DETAINED" AND HIS PRESS CREDENTIALS LIFTED."

CBS NOTED US WARPLANES HAVE SHARPLY ESCALATED BOMBING OF COMMUNIST FORCES IN LAOS "CAUSE OF INCREASED ENEMY ACTIVITY" AND FURTHER RLG APPEALS FOR HELP. ... CRONKITE SAID PPROGRESS TOWARDS A C-F IN LAOS APPARENTLY "HIT SNAGS," BUT HIGH LAO OFFICIALS ASKED ASTROLOGERS THAT THE "STARS SHOULD BE RIGHT" FOR A SIGNING TOMORROW OR SAT.

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UPI SAYS, LON NOL HAS ADOPTED CAUTIOUS PUBLIC STANCE FOLLOWING WIDESPREAD REPORTS HE WILL SOON PROPOSE POLITICAL COMPROMISE TO REBEL COMMUNIST LEADERS TO END WAR IN CAMBODIA.

ROGERS/AID

AP LEADS: "ROGERS ASKED FOR HILL APPROVAL OF POSTWAR AID TO NVN AND FOR HEALING OF THE WOUNDS AT HOME CAUSED BY THE CONFLICT. .. ROGERS PREDICTED HILL APPROVAL. ... CBS NOTED ROGERS ACKNOWLEDGED HILL RESISTANCE TO AID FOR NVN, BUT SAID IT WOULD BE A GOOD INVESTMENT AND WOULD HELP "CEMENT THE PEACE." ... ROGERS SEES "NO INDICATION OF ANY PARTY ATTEMPTING TO SCUTTLE PEACE AGREEMENT ON TRYING TO UNDERCUT IT." HE THINKS CEASEFIRE WILL BE EFFECTIVE.

UPI LEADS: "ROGERS IN AN EMOTION -CHOKED VOICE AND HIS EYES GLISTENING W/UNSHED TEARS, SAID HE THOUGHT IT WAS "TIME THAT ALL OF US TOOK A LITTLE PRIDE IN OUR COUNTRY. " (ALL NETS NOTED) HIS UNUSUAL DISPLAY OF EMOTION CAME AT THE END OF A LENGTHY AND GRUELING NEWS CONFERENCE IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION HOW US COULD REBUILD NVN W/OUT GRANTING AMNESTY. HE STARTED HIS RESPONSE W/LEGALISTIC EXPLANATION THAT, TWO DOMESTIC RECONCILIATION IS NECESSARY, US JUDICIAL PROCESS SHOULD DEAL W/ CO'S AND OTHER RESISTERS. AT THE SAME TIME HE NOTED US SYSTEM DEMANDS RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT.

ABC'S GILL NOTED ROGERS' "RARE" EMOTION, "EYES FILLING W/UNSHED TEARS" AS HE DEFENDED ADMIN POLICY, NOTING WHERE PEOPLE RESISTED SERVICE, SOMEONE ELSE HAD TO SERVE AND PERHAPS DIED. HE SAID ADMIN STAND ON AMNESTY WASN'T A "FAILURE OF COMPASSION" BUT RATHER DETERMINATION TO ABIDE BY LEGAL SYSTEM. ON NBC FILM HE SAID ADMIN IS HAPPY TO ATTEMPT RECONCILIATION IN POST-WAR ERA BUT IT DOESN'T EXPECT CRITICS TO MAKE UNFOUNDED CHARGES WHICH ARE UNJUSTIFIED. HE SAID ON ABC/NBC, "IT'S TIME ALL OF US TOOK PRIDE IN US. "HIS VOICE AUDIBLY CRACKING W/EMOTION.

AP SAYS WH IS CONSULTING HILL LEADERS TO DETERMINE HOW STRONGLY NVN AID WILL BE OPPOSED. ... AP'S CORMIER SAYS WH, CONCERNED ABOUT HILL OPPOSITION TO AID, SOUGHT TO PLAY DOWN AID ASPECTS OF HAK'S NVN TALKS.

HUGH SCOTT PREDICTED RELUCTANT HILL WOULD PROVIDE RECONSTRUCTION FUNDS EVEN THO IT "GOES AGAINST THE GRAIN." HE HATES "WHOLE IDEA" OF SPENDING MONEY ON COUNTRY W/WHICH US WAS RECENTLY AT WAR, BUT HE NOTES RATIONAL REASON FOR IT: IF US IS "ENGAGED IN REHABILITATION, (IT) WILL HAVE A GREAT DEAL MORE INPUT INTO HOW PEACE IS KEPT." IN HIS VIEW, IT'S "THE BEST WAY" SAYING "ITS CHEAPER THAN SPENDING MONEY ON MAKING WAR."

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ROBERT BYRD IS "AGAINST IT, PERIOD" NOW, 6 MONTHS FROM NOW OR 1 YEAR FROM NOW. HE ADDED "THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A TIME FOR IT. BUT NOT NOW..." BYRD SAID HE CAN'T VOTE FOR NVN AID "WHEN ADMIN IS IMPOUNDING MONIES" FOR PROGRAMS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO W. VA. ... KKKH COULDN'T VOTE TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO REBUILD HAIPHONG "WHEN MUCH OF DC'S GHETTO HASN'T BEEN REBUILT SINCE IT WAS RAVAGED BY RIOTS IN '68."...ABOUREEK ASKED WHY SHOULD US BE REBUILDING NVN " WHEN WE CAN'T REBUILD AMERICA."

HAYS SAID THERE'D BE "ICE-SKATING IN HELL" BEFORE HE'LL VOTE FOR IT. ... MAHON CALLED AID PROSPECT VERY BITTER AND DISTURBING" FOR US PEOPLE AND ALL WILL WANT TO "TREAD CAUTIOUSLY " IN THIS AREA. GROSS SAID JOINT US- NVN ECONOMIC COMMISSION IS "CONDUIT FOR THE HANDOUT " AND HE OPPOSES PAYING ANYTHING.

(CBS NOTED) INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THAILAND, SINGAPORE AND PHILLIPINES WILL ASSIST IN INDOCHINA REHABILITATION AND WILL ASK BURMA AND 4 INDOCHINA COUNTRIES TO JOIN IN 10-NATION ALL-SE ASIA CONFERENCE.

SEVARIED ON AID SAID THIS IS ERA OF "PRESIDENTIAL GOV'T. " WHERE PRES. DECIDES WHO GETS KILLED AND WHO GETS AIDED -- AND THEY ARE SOMETIMES THE SAME. CLEARLY, HE SAID, A COMMITMENT TO AID NVN HAS BEEN MADE, THO THERE IS "NO CONSENSUS IN CONG, THE PRESS, OR THE PEOPLE" THAT WE SHOULD DO SO. SPECIFIC DOLLAR FIGURES ARE NOT BEING CITED, THO THEY WERE EARLIER, AND THUS THE ADMIN IS "PROCEEDING CAUTIOUSLY." MOREOVER, HE CONTINUED, FOREIGN SPENDING BROUGHT ABOUT A "STILL UNCURED SICKNESS" OF THE DOLLAR.

NO CASE WILL BE MADE FOR AID TO NVN BY THE ADMIN ON MORAL GROUNDS. ERIC SAID: TO DO SO WOULD MEAN THAT DESTROYING IT WAS IMMORAL. ADMIN'S "IMPULSE" IS "NOT HUMANITARIAN, BUT PRACTICAL." THINKING BEING THAT AID WILL GIVE INCENTIVE TO NVN TO KEEP THE PEACE. SKEPTICS MAY SAY THAT IT MAY WORK IN FAVOR IN NVN'S VISION OF CONTROLLING ALL OF VN SOMEDAY, WHILE THE CYNICAL VIEW IS THAT THE DOLLARS WILL HAVE A "CORRUPTING AFFECT" ON THE NVN -- NO ONE KNOWS, FOR SURE.

SPECIFIC WAR DAMAGE CAN BE QUICKLY REPAIRED, ERIC SAID, SUCH AS BRIDGES AND DAMS. BUT NOT SO FOR DAMAGE TO THE FIELDS, FORESTS, AND FINDING HOMES FOR MILLIONS. IT APPEARS, CONCLUDED SEVARIED, THAT WE MAY TAKE AS LONG RE-BUILDING NVN AS WE WERE AT WRECKING IT.

RN/DOD

ABC/CBS FILM OF RN AT DOD LUNCHEON W/TOAST FOR PEACE... RN NOTED IT WAS HIS 1ST VISIT TO DOD SINCE CEASEFIRE AND SO "IT'S A SPECIAL OCCASION. " HE SAID "ALL DOD WANTS IS TO BE PEACE FORCE" AND THAT'S WHAT IT IS. (CBS SAID IT WAS 1ST RN VISIT SINCE CAMBODIAN INVASION; REASONER CALLED IT "UNUSUAL. ") MOOPER ON CBS SAID, "LIKE ALL OF US, (RN) WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED AT THE MANNER IN WHICH THE POWS DEPORTED THEMSELVES.. THEIR HEADS WERE HELD HIGH. THEY ARE REAL TRUE-BLUE AMERICANS, AND SET A "WONDERFUL EXAMPLE" FOR ALL OF US.

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RN SAID VN CEASEFIRE SHOWED US ALLIES AND ADVERSARIES THAT US "IS A DEFENDABLE CREDIBLE POWER IN THE WORLD." HE DESCRIBED "CONCERN EXPRESSED BY OUR ALLIES" OVER US POLICY AS "UNDERSTANDABLE." BUT RN SUGGESTED TAKING ANY OTHER COURSE "WOULD HAVE ERODED AND POSSIBLY DESTROYED CONFIDENCE IN US AND MIGHT HAVE ENORMOUSLY ENCOURAGED THOSE WHO HAVE AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS TOWARD US." VN AGREEMENT WAS SUCCESSFUL "CAUSE ALL THE POWER IN THE WORLD LODGED IN US MEANS NOTHING UNLESS THOSE DEPENDENT ON OUR POWER HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE, SOME ASSURANCE, SOME TRUST THAT US IS CREDIBLE AND DEFENDABLE."

RN SAID EFFECT OF HIS POLICY WAS TO "RE-ENFORCE CONFIDENCE" IN US STEADFASTNESS IN EUROPE AND ASIA. IN FUTURE US "WILL HEAR UNDERSTANDABLY VOICES RAISED, SOME VERY SINCERE VOICES" SUGGESTING "LET'S THROW OUR HANDS" AND TURN AWAY FROM WORLD OBLIGATIONS. RN SAID THAT IS 1 REASON HE CONSIDERED IT "VITALLY IMPORTANT" TO ACHIEVE PEACE W/HONOR AND "TO END THE WAR" IN "THE RIGHT WAY" (NBC'S VALERIANI OVER FILM OF RN W/GOOPASTER SAID RN ALLOWED REPORTERS "W/IN EARSHOT" TO HEAR REMARK.)... CBS CALLED IT IMPROMPTU DEFINITION OF VN POLICY. SCHEIFFER SAID THAT RN HAS CALLED THIS THE YEAR OF EUROPE AND SAID MANNER IN WHICH US TREATS AID TO VN WILL AFFECT US RELATIONS "EVERYWHERE."

UPI LEADS: "RN PREDICTED HISTORY WILL VINDICATE HIS VN POLICIES CAUSE THEY REMINDED BOTH ALLIES AND POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES THAT US IS A CREDIBLE, DEFENDABLE POWER IN THE WORLD." CHEERED BY DOD WORKERS, RN COMMENTED TO THE SERVICEMEN: "THE UNIFORM LOOKS VERY FINE THESE DAYS... IT'S GOOD FOR AMERICANS TO BE REMINDED OF SO MANY BRAVE MEN WHO DID SO MUCH FOR THEIR COUNTRY, SUFFERED SO MUCH TO HAVE PEACE IN THE WORLD..." VALERIANI NOTED AFTER LUNCH RN "CHATTED W/ BYSTANDERS" AGAIN TODAY, MANY OF WHOM THANKED HIM FOR ENDING WAR. HIS RECENT PUBLIC APPEARANCES "DRAMATIZE (RN'S) SATISFACTION."

VALERIANI NOTED WH HAS BEEN "BITTER AND RESENTFUL" ABOUT INDIFFERENT REACTION, BUT THAT RN TOOK "GREAT SATISFACTION" IN POW RETURN WHICH FOREMOST AMONG REASONS FOR LACK OF EMOTIONAL CHEERING OF VN PEACE IS THAT WWII WAS AN "INTENSE EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE, SUPPORTED ALMOST UNANIMOUSLY." VN WASN'T, W/POLLS SHOWING MAJORITY WISHED US HAD NEVER GOTTEN INVOLVED. HE NOTES IN WWII US WAS ATTACHED, AND PEOPLE CAUSE OF RATIONING AND OTHER WARTIME MEASURES FELT INVOLVED. THIS TIME NEITHER WAS TRUE. IN VN MEDIA BROUGHT PICTURES "IN SOME REALITY" BUT NOT IN WWII. HE ALSO NOTED LACK OF CLEAR OBJECTIVE IN VN AS OPPOSED TO WWII AND FACT US WON, W/ENEMY SURRENDERED, AND US PEACE PR IN WWII, BUT NOT IN VN. PERHAPS CAUSE US HAS HAD FALSE PEACE ALARMS FOR 6-8 YEARS, NOW THAT THE WAR IS REALLY OVER, NO ONE IS REALLY SURE IT IS.

BROCK SAID ALL AMERICANS, REGARDLESS OF THE THEIR PRECIOUS POSITION ON THE WAR, "SHOULD REJOICE AT RETRIBUTION OF THIS PEACE W/HONOR." HE ADDED, "I HAVE TREMENDOUS PRIDE IN OUR PRESIDENT. HE HAS DEMONSTRATED THE ABILITY TO FASHION OUT OF A SEEMINGLY HOPELESS INHERITED WAR A NEGOTIATED PEACE THAT HAS REAL PROSPECT OF DURABILITY, AND WHICH MEETS VIRTUALLY EVERY SINGLE OBJECTIVE FOR WHICH WE FOUGHT." BECAUSE OF WHAT RN DID, BROCK CONTINUED, "OUR BOYS DID NOT FIGHT AND NOT

~~COMBAT~~ DIE, IN VAIN."

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POWS/VETS

ABC/CBS FILMS CARRIED RISNER'S RESPONSE TO QUERY ON POW AWARENESS OF DIVISION W/IN THE US OVER THE WAR. RISNER SAID THEY WERE NOT AWARE THAT SUCH WAS THE CASE, BUT IN THE US-- A COUNTRY OF FREEDOMS -- THERE WILL ALWAYS BE PEOPLE W/DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS ON ANY ISSUE -- THIS IS TO BE EXPECTED, HE ADDED, AND "THIS IS WHY WE WERE FIGHTING" AND "WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT" SO THAT THEY (DISSENTERS) HAVE THAT RIGHT....CBS REPORTER COMMENTED THAT UNTIL NOW, LITTLE HAD BEEN SAID ABOUT ANTI-WAR STATEMENTS THAT SOME MAY HAVE SAID WHILE IN CAPTIVITY...ABC/CBS FILM REPORTS CARRIED COL. RISNER'S STATEMENT THAT THE POWS HAVE A COMRADE-SHIP AND LOYALTY THAT MAY NEVER BE FOUND AGAIN IN A GROUP OF MEN.

ON ABC FILM RISNER NOTED GOOD CONDITION OF MEN WHO "HABITUALLY EXERCISED MIND AND BODY" NEVER LETTING THEIR MINDS GO TO SLEEP.... REASONER NOTED POW'S "FANNED OUT" ACROSS US ON TRAVIS ARRIVAL. ABC'S PETERSON CALLED BYRNE'S SPEECH "INSPIRING." ALL NETS NOTED NO COMMENTS ON CAPTIVITY IN NEWS CONFERENCE AND THERE WON'T BE TIL AFTER ALL POWS ARE BACK....ON ABC SMITH NOTED WANAT'S FATHER'S RELATING VC'S TREATMENT OF SON WHO IS IN GOOD SPIRITS EXCEPT FOR "DEEP HATRED" OF CAPTORS. MRS CALLED IT 1 OF "LESS HAPPY STORIES" OF RETURN.

UPI LEADS: "W/WIVES BEDECKED IN ORCHIDS SENT BY RN, 3 VA. POWS WERE GIVEN A SPIRITED WELCOME HOME BY 400 FLAG-WAVING, HYMN SINGING GREETERS AT NORFOLK."

DENTON SAID HE'S "CERTAINLY MOTIVATED" TO REMAIN IN SERVICE AND, THO HE'LL CONSULT FAMILY, HE WANTS TO SERVE COUNTRY IN SOME WAYCBS AM HAD FILM OF LODR DAVIS ARRIVAL AT ANDREWS CALLING IT "GREAT HONOR" TO COME HOME TO "A LAND WHO'S PEOPLE HAVE THE COURAGE TO BE FREE. THANKS, AMERICA."...CBS AM INTERVIEWED WIFE OF LTC BRUNSTROM WHO SAID HE TALKS INCESSANTLY, ABOUT COUNTRY AND PRES. AND SAYS "GOD BLESS US, PRES, AND FAMILY." ON CBS SHE ADDED THAT SHE DOESN'T THINK HE'LL HAVE A PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEM -- AS FAR AS THE FUTURE IS CONCERNED -- THO SHE THINKS HE REALIZES THAT HE'S BEEN THRU AN EXPERIENCE, BUT MAY HAVE BENEFITTED FROM SOME OF IT....OPT RIVERS SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO RETURN TO HIS FAMILY, HIS FRIENDS AND TO US AND THAT HE WAS "VERY PROUD OF MY SERVICE TO MY COUNTRY, TO MY O-IN-C, RN, AND TO US PEOPLE."

OPT STOCKDALE, SPOKESMAN FOR 2ND GROUP OF POWS TO REACH TRAVIS, THANKED THE PEOPLE FOR THEIR LOYALTY, ADDING: "THE MEN WHO FOLLOW ME DOWN THAT RAMP KNOW WHAT LOYALTY MEANS CAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN LIVING W/LOYALTY, LIVING ON LOYALTY, PAST SEVERAL YEARS. HE DESCRIBED IT AS "LOYALTY TO EACH OTHER, LOYALTY TO THE MILITARY ETHIC, LOYALTY TO OUR O-IN-C."

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AT TRAVIS, CBS'S DRINKWATER REPORTED SMALLER CROWD "DIDN'T DIMINISH" THEIR "PROFOUND RELIEF" AT BEING HOME. ON CBS/ABC COL GUARINO SAID THEY'D NOTICED MANY CHANGES IN US SINCE THEIR RETURN -- EVERYONE LOOKS LIKE HE'S HAVING A GOOD TIME, ADDING THAT THEY DON'T CARE HOW LONG A GUY'S HAIR IS, "AS LONG AS HE'S A GOOD AMERICAN." NAVY'S LODR KNUTSON (ON FILM) SAID HE PLANS TO STAY IN THE NAVY, TRAVEL AND, BEING A BACHELOR, "CHASE A LOT OF GIRLS."...AS MEN AND THEIR WIVES ARRIVED AT HOSPITALS IN SAN FRANCISCO AREA, WIVES RECEIVED CORSAGES SENT TO THEM BY RN.

CBS FILM OF MSGT ROBERTSON'S ARRIVAL AT SCOTT AFB, ILL SHOWED A JUBILANT ROBERTSON EMBRACING SEVERAL PERSONS, TWO NOT RELATED TO ANY OF THEM, WHILE IN ONE HAND HE CARRIED A (UNOPENED) BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE.

AMERICANS HELD IN COMMUNIST PRISON CAMPS IN SVN TOLD OF WIDESPREAD MALARIA, POOR SURGERY AND IN ONE INSTANCE OF AN ARMY SGT. FORCED TO STAND IN A FOOT-DEEP HOLE FILLED WITH RED ANTS FOR DISOBEYING HIS CAPTORS.

CBS'S DRINKWATER OBSERVED THAT THE RETURNING POWS WANT MOST TO HEAR ABOUT HOME AND THEIR FAMILIES.

USAF SAYS COMMISSIONS GIVEN 3 POWS BY FELLOW OFFICER IN NVN CAMP ARE ILLEGAL AND COULD BE OVERTURNED. "THERE'S NO LEGAL BASIS FOR SENIOR OFFICER OF POW CAMP TO CONFER COMMISSIONS DURING INTERNMENT," A SPOKESMAN SAID. THE 3 POWS, ALL SGT'S WERE PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT IN '68....AF LATER SAID CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO MAKING PROMOTIONS LEGAL....HUGH SCOTT SAID "I AM SURE THE DEFENSE PEOPLE ARE AWAITING THE RETURN OF (THE COL. WHO MADE THE PROMOTIONS) BEFORE THEY CAN MAKE A FAVORABLE DECISION.

USIA WHISKED POW WALDHAUS OUT OF SAIGON 3 DAYS AFTER RELEASE BY VC. HE WAS UNABLE TO REMEMBER TOWN OR VILLAGE IN PROVINCE HIS FORMER GIRL FRIEND LIVED IN, BUT AFTER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE NARROWED IT DOWN TO 1 POSSIBILITY, AN ALL-DAY SEARCH FAILED TO LOCATE GIRL....HOWEVER, CRONKITE CALLING WALDHAUS "ONE OF THE MORE MYSTERIOUS" POWS, NOTED THAT HE FOUND HIS GIRLFRIEND, MET W/HER PRIVATELY, THEN LEFT FOR US, ALONE....AP LEADS: "WALDHAUS LEFT SAIGON IN THE SAME MYSTERIOUS WAY HE VANISHED 18 MONTHS AGO, "WHEN HE WAS CAPTURED.

MCG HAS MADE NO COMMENT ON POW RETURN THO HE HAS IN PAST BEEN SUPPORTER OF LIFELONG FINANCIAL BENEFITS FOR THEM.

ABC NOTED GVN WARNED IT WILL STOP RELEASING COMMUNIST POWS UNLESS ITS OWN MEN ARE RELEASED ON SCHEDULE.

DOD RELEASED NAMES OF 10 US AIRMEN LOST IN SE ASIA IN PAST 3 WEEKS....VN TROOP STRENGTH IS 15,744, LOWEST IN 10 YEARS.

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AMERICAN LEGION CDR. MATTHEWS COMMENDED RN'S MOVE CANCELING VA RATE CHANGES AND STATED "PROMULGATION OF CHANGES WOULD HAVE BEEN INAPPROPRIATE." HE SAID HE'S CONFIDENT "CARE AND WELL-BEING OF SERVICE DISABLED WILL BE SAFEGUARDED WHILE THEY'RE IN RN'S CARE."... CRANSTON SUGGESTED VA AND WH BUDGET OFFICIALS MAY BE WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM RN ON "THE TRUTH" ABOUT VETS PROGRAMS.

AMNESTRY

"US MILITARY EXILES LAUD CANADA, BLAST HOMELAND" IN ACROSS-THE-TOP-OF-P. 1 HEAD IN PLAIN DEALER WITH KICKER: "HAPPINESS IS MARIJUANA, NO HASSLING," WHERE WRITER DOLGAN SAYS "MANY AMERICANS" ASK WHAT WILL BE DONE TO BRING THE "MANY FINE YOUNG MEN" AMONG THOSE WHO'VE FLED BACK. FOR AT LEAST SOME OF THE DESERTERS, THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE -- THEY'LL STAY OUT OF US, AND BY CHOICE. "THEY DON'T WANT YOUR SYMPATHY. IN FACT, THEY MAY FEEL A BIT SORRY FOR YOU." A NUMBER CITED US CRIME AS A REASON TO LIVE IN CANADA WHERE TORONTO HAD 43 MURDERS IN '72 COMPARED TO 334 IN CLEVELAND AND 694 IN DETROIT. WHEN ONE DESERTER TOLD HOW MP'S SEARCHED HIS HOUSE, ANOTHER ASKED "WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? THE US HAS THE MOST FASCIST, TOTALITARIAN GOV'T IN THE WORLD." NOTING HOW MANY OF THE DESERTERS TALK OF BUYING LAND IN NORTHERN CANADA, THE WRITER RECALLS HOW VA. "WAS ORIGINALLY AN ENGLISH PENAL COLONY." DESERTERS ALSO CLAIM CANADIAN GOV'T IS MUCH MORE INTERESTED IN THEIR CREATIVITY THAN IS USG. ONE SUGGESTED US MAY GET IN A WAR WITH CANADA SOON OVER MINERALS JUST AS HE CLAIMED IT FOUGHT VN FOR OIL. ANOTHER SPOKE OF GUERRILLA WAR GOING ON NOW IN US WHICH HE PREDICTS WILL EVENTUALLY BE A 4TH RATE POWER. ONE DESERTER SAID HE MAY SOMEDAY WONDER WHY HE DIDN'T STAY IN US TO FIGHT THE SYSTEM. AND REPORTER SAYS SUCH COPPING OUT "COULD BE THE ULTIMATE TRAGEDY OF THE DODGERS."

REASONER NOTED "LEAST CONTROVERSIAL" ADMIN FIGURE ROGERS "EMOTIONALLY" DISMISSED AMNESTY ON GROUNDS FOR THOSE WHO DIDN'T SERVE, SOMEONE DID AND MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED. THO ADMITTING HE'D VOTE AGAINST AMNESTY RIGHT NOW, HE THOUGHT ROGERS "UNFAIR, CLOUDING ISSUE BY OMISSION. HARRY SAID NUMBERS OF THOSE WHO RESISTED SERVICE ARE 1 TO 1000, BUT SO ARE THOSE WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE LAW NOT TO SERVE BY JOINING NG AND RESERVES AMONG OTHER PLOYS. FOR THOSE TOO, SOMEONE ELSE HAD TO GO AND MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED. THEY ALSO HAVE THEIR CONSCIENCES TO PAY AND THEIR CONSCIENCES "WILL PROBABLY SUSPEND SENTENCE." THE DRAFT THUS PROVIDED "ARMY OF THE DISADVANTAGED, THE UNCLEVER." THOSE WHO NEVER BROKE THE LAW IN AVOIDING SERVICE PROBABLY "NEVER TOOK MUCH PRIDE OF COUNTRYEITHER." REASONER CALLS ROGERS' LOGIC "SPECIOUS AND DANGEROUS" TO ATTACK PRIDE IN COUNTRY OF THOSE WHO DIDN'T FIGHT. FOR HIMSELF HE NOTES IT WAS BECAUSE HE TOOK PRIDE IN US THAT HE "TOOK SHAME" IN THE WAR. THO HARRY REITERATES HE'S "NOT READY TO VOTE FORGIVENESS," BUT HE KNOWS SOME WHO SERVED THEIR TIME IN THE MILITARY AND HE THINKS THEY MIGHT JUST FOR IT.

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CBS AM LETTERS ON AMNESTY WERE 3-2 AGAINST. 1 WOMAN "FELT LIKE CRYING" SAYING DESERTERS "SHOULD NEVER SET FOOT" IN US AGAIN. SHE ALSO TERMED "IMPUDENCE OF THOSE 3 (RESISTERS ON CBS AM INTERVIEW) AWFUL." ANOTHER SAID NO AMNESTY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TIL ALL POWS HOME AND MIAS ACCOUNTED FOR. US SHOULD FIRST TAKE CARE OF THOSE WHO DID THEIR JOB. 3RD LETTER NOTED SUPPORT OF AMNESTY WAS "1 OF MCGS BLUNDERS" AND SUGGESTED IF RESISTERS-DESERTERS ARE AS SMART AS THEY SAY THEY ARE, THEY SHOULD HAVE PUT TALENTS TO CORRECTING INJUSTICES. 1 MOTHER SAID AMNESTY PUT MOTHERS ON SPOT; WOULD THEY REALLY KEEP OTHER MOTHERS' SONS FROM COMING HOME. ANOTHER CALLED RESISTERS-DESERTERS "PATRIOTS" NOT TRAITORS AND FEW REALIZE BRANDT WENT INTO EXILE AFTER REFUSING TO SERVE.

EAST-WEST

ON HAK TRIP, ROGERS SAID U HAS "EXPECTATIONS OF IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH PRC."... HSINHUA DESCRIBED TALKS AS "CONCRETE CONSULTATIONS WITH PRC LEADERS TO FURTHER NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS."... CHARLES WILEY, DIRECTOR OF A GROUP FORMED TO FREE 2 US AIRMEN AND FIND OUT ABOUT 4 OTHERS LISTED AS MISSING AFTER THEY CRASHED IN PRC TERRITORY SAID PRC "SAYS THAT IT WANTS BETTER RELATIONS WITH (US)... PRC WANTS (US) PROG PRODUCTS...SUPPORT OR NEUTRALITY IN THE SINO-SOVIET DISPUTE. WE WANT OUT, OUR SERVICEMEN RETURNED." WILEY SAID HE HAD BEEN TOLD SUBJECT OF THESE POWS WOULD "DEFINITELY" COME UP DURING CURRENT US/PRC TALKS.

UPI'S THALER REPORTS COMMUNIST DIPLOMATS TERM USSR SUSPICIOUS OF ANY US POLITICAL MOVE TOWARD PRC AND OF POSSIBLE GANGING-UP THAT WOULD LEAVE USSR ISOLATED OR ENCIRCLED. WESTERN PRC HANDS COINCIDENTALLY DREW ATTENTION TO FACT THAT PRC NEWS AGENCY REPORTED WITHOUT COMMENT DOD WOULD TRANSFER HQS. OF SE ASIA OPERATIONS TO THAILAND.

ROGERS SAID US HAS NO PLANS AT THIS TIME TO REDUCE TAIWAN TROOP STRENGTH CAUSE "IT'S TOO EARLY YET TO FULFILL THAT PORTION OF AGREEMENT MADE WITH PRC."...ROGERS SAID SEATO "IS A WORTH-WHILE ORGANIZATION AND WE INTEND TO CONTINUE AS A MEMBER." HE ADDED, THO, THAT IN VIEW OF THE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES IN ASIA "MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY ALLIANCE HAVE TO CONSIDER CHANGES."...GB IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PRC DEAL TO BUY OR BUILD GB PLANES BUT AWARE IT COULD UPSET BOTH US AND USSR.

RN SAID PROBLEM OF US-EUROPE RELATIONS, INCLUDING MBFR AND US TROOP LEVELS, WILL BE "UNDER INTENSE DISCUSSION" IN ADMIN. AP NOTED RN LINKED US CREDIBILITY IN EUROPE AND ASIA WITH PEACE WITH HONOR IN VN. ...PERCY SAID US MUST EXERCISE "A HIGH DEGREE OF CAUTION" IN ITS MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID "AGREEMENTS MUST NOT BE ACHIEVED FOR THE SAKE OF AGREEMENT," ADDING THAT US MUST RECOGNIZE THAT "AGREEMENTS REACHED MAY ALTER SECURITY BALANCE IN EUROPE." PERCY ALSO CONTINUED THAT US MUST INSURE THAT FUTURE FREEDOM "OF PEOPLES OF BALTIC STATES AND OF NATIONS OF EASTERN EUROPE ARE NOT DISREGARDED OR SIGNED AWAY."

UPI SAYS THE UNIFIED WESTERN APPROACH TO E/W TALKS ON MBFR HAS FALLEN APART AND ALLIES ARE TRYING TO WORK OUT A NEW ONE, WESTERN SOURCES SAID. "RIGHT NOW, WE'VE GOT 15 COUNTRIES

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HERE AND IS DIFFERENT IDEAS," A DIPLOMAT AT NATO SAID. WESTERN PLANS CAME UNSTUCK IN THE FACE OF USSR COUNTER-PROPOSALS IN VIENNA THAT WOULD CHANGE THE ENTIRE CONCEPT OF MEFR. THE SOURCES SAID. THE PROBLEM NOW, THEY SAID, IS TO MEET THESE COUNTER-PROPOSALS AND GET THE TALKS GOING. BRANDT SIGNED GOOD NEIGHBOR TREATY WITH E. GERMANY CAUSE WITHOUT IT PEACE IN EUROPE WAS UNTHINKABLE.

OTHER FOREIGN AFFAIRS

LEBANESE PAPER SAYS SECRET ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR HAK AND TOP SADAT ADVISER TO MEET IN PARIS TO DISCUSS PROSPECTS FOR MID-EAST SETTLEMENT....ALL NETS NOTED ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN WARPLANES ENGAGED IN DOGFIGHTS OVER GULF OF SUZUKI WHILE ISRAELI AND SYRIAN GUNNERS EXCHANGED ARTILLERY FIRE OVER BORDER. AERIAL CLASH WAS 1ST IN 8 MONTHS...AP SAID INCIDENT COULD GIVE IMPETUS TO RN-MEIR TALS.... BOTH ISRAEL AND EGYPT AGREED EGYPTIAN MIG WAS SHOT DOWN BUT ISRAEL DENIED EGYPTIAN CLAIM OF SHOOTING DOWN 1 ISRAELI JET. (ALL NETS NOTE)... GAZA STRIP RESIDENTS REACTED SHARPLY TO NEW SPATE OF TERRORISM AND ASSASSINATION OF GAZA LEADERS BY PETITIONING ARAB WORLD LEADERS TO PERSUADE GAZA GUERRILLAS TO CEASE THEIR ACTIVITIES.

ALL NETS NOTED US/CUBA HIJACKING AGREEMENT...ROGERS SAID THERE'LL BE "NO SAFE HAVEN" IN EITHER CUBA OR US...CBS OVER FILM OF ROGERS SIGNING, REPORTED THAT WHILE CZECH REP SIGNED IN BEHALF OF CUBA, A SWISS REPRESENTED THE US IN HAVANA... ROGERS SAID US WON'T GIVE CUBA DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION CAUSE IT SEES NO CHANGE IN CASTRO'S HOSTILE ANTI-US ATTITUDE. TWO ANTI-HIJACK AGREEMENT IS WELCOME, IT'S POSSIBLE "ONLY CAUSE CUBA, ITSELF WAS GETTING INCREASINGLY TIRED OF TRYING TO DEAL" WITH PROBLEM...RESULT OF NEGOTIATIONS WERE DESCRIBED AS HIGHLY SATISFACTORY TO US. OFFICIALS SAID THEY ACHIEVED BASIC GOAL OF ACTING AGAINST TERRORISM WITHOUT COMPROMISING TRADITIONAL US POSITION OF ACCEPTING ACTUAL POLITICAL REFUGEES....EMK PRAISED SIGNING OF AGREEMENT BUT ADDED "IT WOULD BE TRAGIC IF US WERE TO ALLOW THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PASS WITHOUT TAKING FURTHER STEPS TOWARD NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH CUBA."

MARINES SAID BRITISH MARINES ARE TRAINED AT CAMP LEJEUNE BUT THAT IT HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF EMK CLAIM THEY'RE USED FOR SECURITY DUTY IN N. IRELAND...MARINES SAID 800 BRITISH MARINES HAD CONDUCTED EXERCISES AT CAMP LEJEUNE DURING PAST 2 WEEKS AS PART OF A CONTINUING NATO PROGRAM TO FAMILIARIZE TROOP UNITS FROM NATO COUNTRIES WITH EACH OTHER'S METHODS, AND HAD NO APPLICATION TO BRITISH SECURITY ACTIVITIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND. "THERE WAS NO GUERRILLA WARFARE AND NO RIOT TRAINING," A SPOKESMAN SAID.

FRENCH COMMUNISTS SAID THAT IF LEFT WINS THE COMING ELECTION AND POMPIDOU REFUSES TO NAME A LEFT-WING PREMIER AND CABINET, THEY WILL CALL ON THE WORKERS FOR ACTION.

DOD ANNOUNCED A NEW "FIRST" FOR NAVY -- THE REENLISTMENT OF A YOUNG US SAILOR ON NVNESE SOIL IN HAIPHONG.

PROXIMATE WILL INTRODUCE BILL TO X

MINUTE GLEN MILITARY

ERVANT PROGRAM-1

DUSTING, SLEEPIN

AP SAYS NAVY'S EXPERIMENT OF SENDING WOMEN TO SEA AS CREW MEMBERS HAD RUN INTO PROBLEMS WITH 1 DECKHAND REVEALING SHE'S PREGNANT -- FROM BEFORE SHIP LEFT PORT -- AND BEING OFF SHIP. ANOTHER HAS BEEN TOLD SHE MAY HAVE TO GO HOME IF SHE MARRIES ANOTHER CREW MEMBER -- THIS LAST SITUATION NOTED BY CBS.

SENTESEN SAID MILITARY NEEDS TO BE TOUGHER AND LEANER, NOTING HIGHEST PER CENT OF SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO COMBAT TROOPS OF ANY NATION IN THE WORLD.

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